

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LIBREV 02111 201323Z

42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSC-01

EB-07 /061 W

----- 114558

R 201300Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7213

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 2111

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PING, GB

SUBJ: MINISTER FALLS FROM POWER AND GRACE

REF: LIBREVILLE 1867

1. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING PRESIDENT BONGO'S MEETING WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DECEMBER 17 STATES THAT MEMBER OF GOVERNMENT, REFERRED TO AS "X", WOULD BE CHARGED WITH (A) SPREADING FALSE INFORMATION, AND (B) ABUSING NAME OF PRESIDENT. COMMUNIQUE POINTED OUT THAT APPLICABLE LAW IN THIS CASE CARRIED PENALTIES OF UP TO TEN YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR EACH OFFENSE.

2. FRENCH DIPLOMAT TOLD EMBOFF THAT "SOURCES CLOSE TO BONGO" IDENTIFY MR. "X" AS MINISTER OF STATE FOR ECONOMY AND FINANCE PAUL MOUKAMBI. MOUKAMBI, WHO HAD BEEN MINISTER FOR ECONOMY AND FINANCE SINCE SEPTEMBER 1972, MOVED TO CURRENT POST AND FIFTH POSITION IN GOG THIS NOVEMBER IN WHAT APPEARED AT THE TIME TO BE GENUINE PROMOTION AIMED AT GIVING HIM BROADER CONTROL OVER NATIONAL FINANCES AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

3. IF FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCES ARE CORRECT, MOUKAMBI MAY IN FACT HAVE BEEN MOVED UP AND OUT. REASON FOR HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LIBREV 02111 201323Z

ALLEGED FALL IS SAID TO BE THAT MOUKAMBI BECAME GREEDY

DURING LONG TENURE AS FINANCE MINISTER AND CHANNELED  
TOO MUCH MONEY FROM GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND CONTRACTS  
INTO OWN POCKET - PRESUMABLY WITHOUT APPROPRIATE SHARE  
FOR BONGO AND OTHERS.

4. NOT CLEAR AT THIS POINT WHETHER BONGO INTENDS TO  
CARRY THROUGH BY MAKING "X'S" IDENTITY PUBLIC AND  
PERHAPS EVENTUALLY PROSECUTING HIM. IF MOUKAMBI IS IN  
FACT HIS TARGET, CHARGES COULD BE SIMPLY ONE METHOD OF  
DISCREDITING HIM TO PREPARE WAY FOR DISMISSAL OR  
RESIGNATION.

5. COMMENT: THIS INFORMATION FITS IN WITH INDICATIONS  
THAT MOUKAMBI HAS HAD LITTLE TO DO SINCE PROMOTION TO  
MINISTER OF STATE, AND WITH RUMOR OF SERIOUS ARGUMENT  
BETWEEN BONGO AND MOUKAMBI JUST PRIOR LATTER'S "PROMOTION"  
NOVEMBER 8TH. THUS, MOUKAMBI MAY WELL BE THE UNFORTUNATE  
MR. "X" WHO HAS FALLEN FROM BONGO'S GOOD GRACES. STEIGMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CORRUPTION, POLITICAL SITUATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LIBREV02111  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750443-0550  
**From:** LIBREVILLE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751222/aaaaatbv.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 LIBREVILLE 1867  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MINISTER FALLS FROM POWER AND GRACE  
**TAGS:** PINT, GB, (BONG, ALBERT BERNARD), (MOUKAMBI, PAUL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006